



## **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

### **Occupational Safety and Health Administration**

**[Docket No. OSHA-2013-0003]**

#### **Electrical Protective Equipment Standard and the Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements**

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA solicits public comments concerning its request for an extension of the information collection requirements specified in its standards on Electrical Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910.137) and Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution (29 CFR 1910.269).

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

#### **ADDRESSES:**

*Electronically:* You may submit comments and attachments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

Facsimile: If your comments, including attachments, are not longer than 10 pages, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-1648.

Mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger, or courier service: When using this method, you must submit a copy of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA-2013-0003, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Deliveries (*hand, express mail, messenger, and courier service*) are accepted during the Department of Labor's and Docket Office's normal business hours, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and OSHA docket number (OSHA-2013-0003) for the Information Collection Request (ICR). All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change, and may be made available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>. For further information on submitting comments see the "Public Participation" heading in the section of this notice titled "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION."

Docket: To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. All documents in the docket (including this *Federal Register* notice) are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the Web site. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. You may contact Theda Kenney at the address below to obtain a copy of the ICR.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Theda Kenney or Todd Owen,  
Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, Room  
N-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-  
2222.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent (i.e., employer) burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651 *et seq.*) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the OSH Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657). The OSH Act also requires that OSHA obtain such information with minimum burden upon employers, especially those operating small businesses, and to reduce to the maximum extent feasible unnecessary duplication of efforts in obtaining information (29 U.S.C. 657).

The Electrical Protective Equipment Standard (29 CFR 1910.137) and the Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Standard (29 CFR 1910.269) specify several paperwork requirements. The following describes the information collection requirements contained in the standards and addresses who will use the information.

### **Electrical Protective Equipment Standard (§ 1910.137)**

#### Testing Certification (§ 1910.137(b)(2)(xii))

Employers must certify that the electrical protective equipment used by their workers have passed the tests specified in paragraphs (b)(2)(viii), (b)(2)(ix), and (b)(2)(xi) of the Standard. The certification must identify the equipment that passed the tests and the dates of the tests. This provision ensures that electrical protective equipment is reliable and safe for worker use and will provide adequate protection against electrical hazards. In addition, certification enables OSHA to determine if employers are in compliance with the equipment-testing requirements of the Standard.

### **Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Standard (§ 1910.269)**

#### Training Certification (§ 1910.269(a)(2)(vii))

This provision requires employers to certify that each worker has received the training specified in paragraph (a)(2) of the Standard. Employers must provide certification after a worker demonstrates proficiency in the work practices involved.

The training conducted under paragraph (a)(2) of the Standard must ensure that: workers are familiar with the safety-related work practices, safety procedures, and other procedures, as well as any additional safety requirements in the Standard that pertain to their respective job assignments; workers are familiar with any other safety practices, including applicable emergency procedures (such as pole top and manhole rescue),

addressed specifically by this Standard that relate to their work and are necessary for their safety; and qualified workers have the skills and techniques necessary to distinguish exposed live parts from other parts of electrical equipment, can determine the nominal voltage of the exposed live parts, know the minimum approach distances specified by the standard for voltages when exposed to them, and understand the proper use of special precautionary techniques, personal protective equipment, insulating and shielding materials, and insulated tools for working on or near exposed and energized parts of electrical equipment.

Workers must receive additional training or retraining if: the supervision and annual inspections required by the Standard indicate that they are not complying with the required safety-related work practices; new technology or equipment, or revised procedures, require the use of safety-related work practices that differ from their usual safety practices; and they use safety-related work practices that are different than their usual safety practices while performing job duties.

The training requirements of the Standard inform workers of the safety hazards of electrical exposure and provide them with the understanding required to minimize these safety hazards. In addition, workers receive proper training in safety-related work practices, safety procedures, and other safety requirements specified in the standard. The required training, therefore, provides information to workers that enable them to recognize how and where electrical exposures occur, and what steps to take, including work practices, to limit such exposure. The certification requirement specified by paragraph (a)(2)(vii) of the Standard helps employers monitor the training their workers

received and helps OSHA determine if employers provided the required training to their workers.

## **II. Special Issues for Comment**

OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

- Whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the Agency's functions, including whether the information is useful;
- The accuracy of OSHA's estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply; for example, by using automated or other technological information collection and transmission techniques.

## **III. Proposed Actions**

OSHA is requesting that OMB extend its approval of the collection of information requirements contained in the Standards on Electrical Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910.137), and Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution (29 CFR 1910.269). The Agency is proposing to decrease the burden hours in the currently approved information collection request from 34,208 hours to 8,218 hours (a total decrease of 25,990 hours). The decrease is a result of a decrease in the number of burden

hours for test certification. The Agency has determined that it is usual and customary for employers to have or stamp the test date on electrical protective equipment.

The Agency will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice, and will include this summary in its request to OMB.

<i>Type of Review:</i>	Extension of a currently approved information collection.
<i>Title:</i>	Electrical Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910.137) and Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution (29 CFR 1910.269).
<i>OMB Control Number:</i>	1218-0190.
<i>Affected Public:</i>	Business or other for-profits.
<i>Number of Respondents:</i>	20,765.
<i>Frequency:</i>	On occasion; Semi-annually; Annually.
<i>Average Time Per Response:</i>	One minute (.02 hour) for a clerical worker to maintain training certification records.
<i>Estimated Total Burden Hours:</i>	8,218.
<i>Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance):</i>	\$0.

#### **IV. Public Participation — Submission of Comments on this Notice and Internet Access to Comments and Submissions**

You may submit comments in response to this document as follows: (1) electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal; (2) by facsimile (fax); or (3) by hard copy. All comments, attachments, and other material must identify the Agency name and the OSHA docket number for the ICR (Docket No. OSHA-2013-0003). You may supplement electronic submissions by uploading document files electronically. If you wish to mail additional materials in reference to an electronic or facsimile submission, you must submit them to the OSHA Docket Office (see the section of this notice titled “ADDRESSES”). The additional materials must clearly identify your electronic comments by your name, date, and the docket number so the Agency can attach them to your comments.

Because of security procedures, the use of regular mail may cause a significant delay in the receipt of comments. For information about security procedures concerning the delivery of materials by hand, express delivery, messenger, or courier service, please contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350, (TTY (877) 889-5627).

Comments and submissions are posted without change at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, OSHA cautions commenters about submitting personal information such as social security numbers and dates of birth. Although all submissions are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through this Web site. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying



at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using the <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site to submit comments and access the docket is available at the Web site's "User Tips" link. Contact the OSHA Docket Office for information about materials not available through the Web site, and for assistance in using the Internet to locate docket submissions.

## **V. Authority and Signature**

David Michaels, Ph.D., MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 *et seq.*) and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 1-2012 (77 FR 3912).

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**David Michaels,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor*  
*for Occupational Safety and Health.*

**BILLING CODE: 4510-26-P**

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